

March 4, 2025

Senate Committee on Human Services
Oregon State Capitol: 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97302

Re: Senate Bill 134

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for reading my testimony regarding Senate Bill 134. My name is Charlotte Kreftmeyer, and I run an Adult Foster Home in Malheur County. I get that this bill is trying to make things safer for residents, but I'm worried it could cause some big problems with privacy and make things harder for folks like me who are trying to do right by our residents.

One of my biggest worries is about privacy. Cameras and recording devices, especially ones that pick up sound and video, could end up catching stuff that residents don't want anyone to see or hear. Things like medical care, help with bathing or dressing, or even private conversations or activities. That could make residents feel embarrassed or uncomfortable, and it could put caregivers in a tough spot too. Plus, there's the whole issue of HIPAA. If these recordings catch private health info or show other residents or staff, it could lead to legal trouble. The bill doesn't really explain how we're supposed to handle that.

Another thing is that residents already have the right to put cameras in their rooms if they want to. That's how it works now, and it lets them have control without causing problems for everyone else. This bill goes further than that, but it doesn't have enough rules to protect privacy or help providers deal with the extra work it might create.

If you're going to make changes to the bill, I think it's really important that any video or audio recordings belong only to the resident or whoever they choose. That way, they're the ones who decide who gets to see it. Also, there should be signs on the doors so people know they might be recorded, and the recordings should have dates and times so everything's clear. And there should be rules to stop recording during private moments, like medical care or personal help.

I want residents to be safe, but this bill, the way it's written now, could cause more problems than it solves. I hope you'll think about these concerns and make changes to protect everyone's privacy and dignity.

Thanks for listening. I'm happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Kreftmeyer

Adult Foster Home Provider, Malheur County